

Use passive voice in *simple present* and *simple past* to complete the following passage.



The Blue Whale

The blue whale is the largest living creature on Earth. Usually these whales _____ (find) in the cold Arctic and Antarctic oceans, but in the winter they _____ (force) to travel to warmer waters for food. It _____ (think) that there were once hundreds of thousands of blue whales, although today only about 1,000 exist. During the last century, blue whales _____ (hunt) for food and for whalebone, which _____ (use) to make women's clothing. In 1930, 30 thousand blue whales _____ (kill) by hunters. Today commercial whaling _____ (ban), and it _____ (hope) that one day thousands of blue whales will *be seen* in the world's ocean again. The mechanism behind modern whale migration _____ (debate) since they are not as specific in their movement patterns as other species, and there is substantial evidence of alternative strategies, such as year-round residency, partial or differential migration, and anomalous habits such as feeding on breeding grounds. It _____ (know) that their natural predator is the orca, and whales near the waters of California have been sighted with scars that prove their encounter.

Blue whales _____ solely _____ (protect) in areas of the Southern Hemisphere starting in 1939, and such protection has been extended so much that today they _____ formally _____ (classify) as *endangered* under the Endangered Species Act and _____ (consider) *depleted* and *strategic* under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. They are definitely a wonder of our oceans!